

MARVEL
COMICS

THE AMAZING

SPIDER-MAN

MAR
#3

APPROVED
BY THE
COMICS
CODE
AUTHORITY

**THE SEARING
SECRET OF
SHADRAC
REVEALED!**



STAN LEE
PRESENTS:

OFF TO A FLYING START!

HOWARD MACKIE
JOHN BYRNE
SCOTT HANNA
STORY & ART
GREGORY WRIGHT
COLORS
RICHARD STARKINGS
& COMICRAFT'S
LIZ AGRAPHOTIS
LETTERS
RALPH MACCHIO
EDITOR
BOB HARRAS
CHIEF

JUST ANOTHER
DAY IN NEW
YORK CITY...

THE
PARAMEDICS
ARE ON THEIR WAY
TO TAKE CARE OF
MADDIE, THE GIRL
WHO WOULD BE
SPIDER-
MAN...

...I'M
GOING TO HAVE
TO GET HER TO TELL
ME THE WHOLE STORY
ABOUT HER POWERS,
WHY SHE PICKED UP
THE SPIDER-MAN
GUISE AND
ALL.

LOOK!

UP
IN THE
SKY!

IT'S
A B—

SOMETIMES
IT'S NICE TO
HAVE FANS.

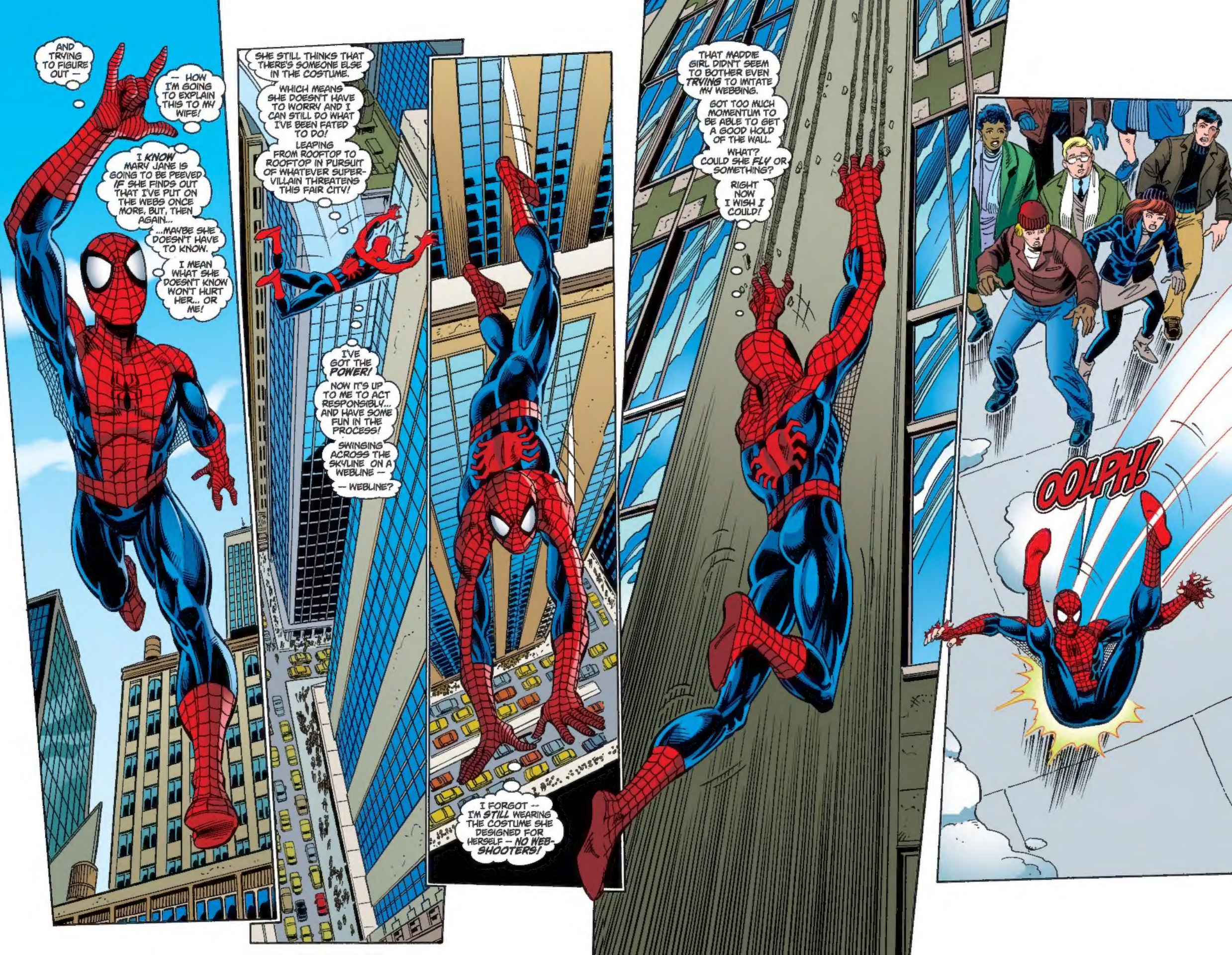
BUT
RIGHT NOW I'VE
GOT OTHER
THINGS ON
MY MIND.

LIKE
FINDING
THAT FLAMING
SHADRAC
GUY.

OKAY,
PEOPLE!
NONE OF
THAT!

NOW
BREAK IT UP
BEFORE I RUN
YOU ALL IN FOR
CREATING A
DISTURBANCE!

And mere minutes after
the conclusion of last
month's cliff-hanger issue
-- Left-hanging -- Ralf



AND TRYING TO FIGURE OUT —

— HOW I'M GOING TO EXPLAIN THIS TO MY WIFE!

I KNOW MARY JANE IS GOING TO BE PEEVED IF SHE FINDS OUT THAT I'VE PUT ON THE WEBS ONCE MORE, BUT, THEN AGAIN...

...MAYBE SHE DOESN'T HAVE TO KNOW.

I MEAN WHAT SHE DOESN'T KNOW WON'T HURT HER... OR ME!

SHE STILL THINKS THAT THERE'S SOMEONE ELSE IN THE COSTUME.

WHICH MEANS SHE DOESN'T HAVE TO WORRY AND I CAN STILL DO WHAT I'VE BEEN FATED TO DO!

LEAPING FROM ROOFTOP TO ROOFTOP IN PURSUIT OF WHATEVER SUPER-VILLAIN THREATENS THIS FAIR CITY!

I'VE GOT THE POWER!

NOW IT'S UP TO ME TO ACT RESPONSIBLY... AND HAVE SOME FUN IN THE PROCESS!

SWINGING ACROSS THE SKYLINE ON A WEBLINE —
— WEBLINE?

I FORGOT — I'M STILL WEARING THE COSTUME SHE DESIGNED FOR HERSELF — NO WEB-SHOOTERS!

THAT MADDE GIRL DIDN'T SEEM TO BOTHER EVEN TRYING TO IMITATE MY WEBBING.

GOT TOO MUCH MOMENTUM TO BE ABLE TO GET A GOOD HOLD OF THE WALL.

WHAT? COULD SHE FLY OR SOMETHING?

RIGHT NOW I WISH I COULD!

OOLPH!



SPIDER-MAN?

YOU... FELL!

ER, YEAH... I MEANT TO DO THAT!



IT WAS ALL PART OF A VERY COMPLEX PLAN, BUT... AHHH...

...I HAVE NO TIME TO EXPLAIN! THE BAD GUY AWAITS!



I'VE GOT TO GET HOLD OF SOME WEB-SHOOTERS.

AND I THINK I KNOW WHERE THERE'S A PAIR.

THEN I'M GOING TO HAVE TO SOMEHOW FIND THIS SHADRAC CHARACTER WHO WAS BURNING UP HALF THE CITY!

SPEAKING OF WHICH...

NOOOO!

THE PAIN! MAKE IT... STOP!

PLEASE!

WHY ARE YOU DOING THIS TO ME? HOW?

THE WHY IS SIMPLE, MY DEAR SHADRAC...



...BECAUSE
I OWN
YOU!

THE
HOW... THAT
IS ANOTHER
STORY,
SHADRAC.

MY
NAME...
IS NOT...
SHADRAC.
I AM...

DR.
GREGORY
HERD? I
THINK
NOT.

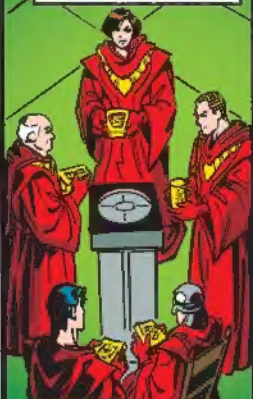
"YOU GAVE UP
ANY RIGHT TO
YOUR CIVILIAN
IDENTITY THE DAY
THAT, AS THE SUPER-
POWERED *OVERDRIVE*,
YOU THREW YOUR
LOT IN WITH THE
LIKES OF THAT
MURDEROUS THIEF,
NORMAN OSBORN."



"YOUR MISGUIDED
ATTEMPT TO JOIN
THE GATHERING OF
FIVE CEREMONY IN
ORDER TO GAIN SOME
MAGICAL GIFT TO HELP
YOUR CRITICALLY
INJURED SPOUSE WAS
FOOLISH AT BEST."

"I DO GIVE
YOU CREDIT
FOR PIECING
TOGETHER THE
PUZZLE OF THE
GATHERING
OF FIVE."

"WHY BRING THE
PIECES OF POWER
TOGETHER? WHY
RISK THE CHANCES
OF DEATH, INSANITY
OR ANY OF THE
OTHER TRICKS
SUCH DABBLING IN
THE METAPHYSICAL
HAS TO OFFER?"



"NOT WHEN THE
SPINDLE, THE
CENTERPIECE, MY
PIECE, STOLEN BY
AGENTS OF OSBORN,
COULD GRANT A
SAMPLING OF
ALL GIFTS."

"YOU TOOK YOUR
CHANCE AND YOU
PAID YOUR PRICE."

"YOU RECEIVED
DEATH."



"YOUR WIFE IS
NONE THE BETTER
FOR YOUR RISK,
AND YOU..."

"... YOU ARE *SHADRAC*,
MY OWN PERSONAL
ANGEL OF DEATH."

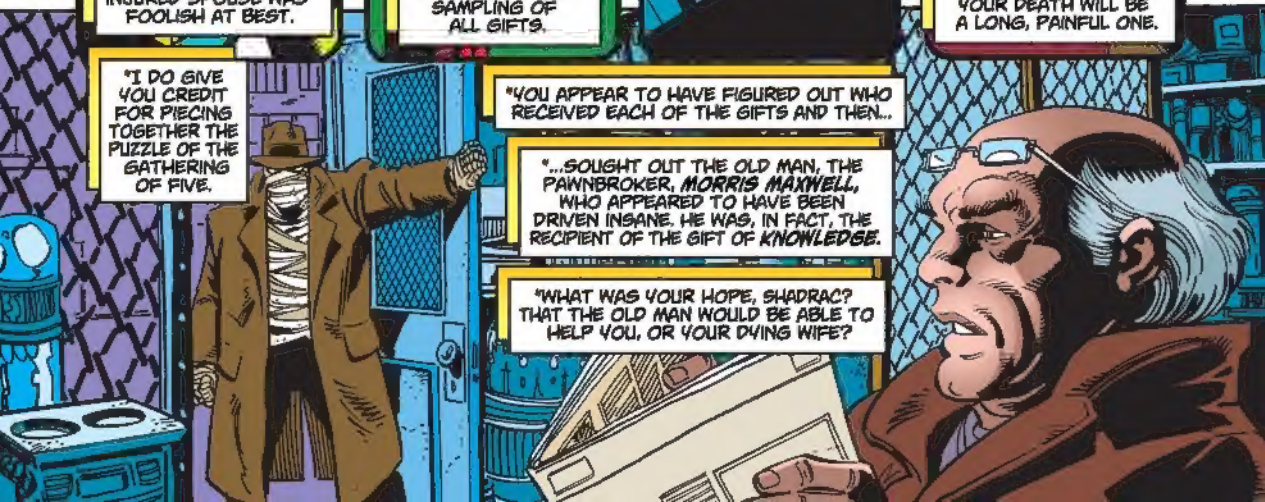


"THE FLAMES SEAR YOU
FROM THE INSIDE OUT.
YOUR DEATH WILL BE
A LONG, PAINFUL ONE."

"YOU APPEAR TO HAVE FIGURED OUT WHO
RECEIVED EACH OF THE GIFTS AND THEN..."

"... SOUGHT OUT THE OLD MAN, THE
PAWNBROKER, *MORRIS MAXWELL*,
WHO APPEARED TO HAVE BEEN
DRIVEN INSANE. HE WAS, IN FACT, THE
RECIPIENT OF THE GIFT OF KNOWLEDGE."

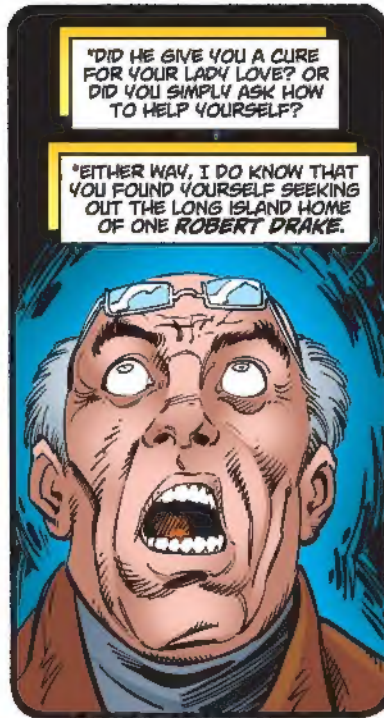
"WHAT WAS YOUR HOPE, SHADRAC?
THAT THE OLD MAN WOULD BE ABLE TO
HELP YOU, OR YOUR DYING WIFE?"





"DID YOU ASK HIM THE RIGHT QUESTION?"

"THAT'S THE TRICK, DON'T YOU KNOW? YOU SIMPLY **MUST** ASK THE RIGHT QUESTION."



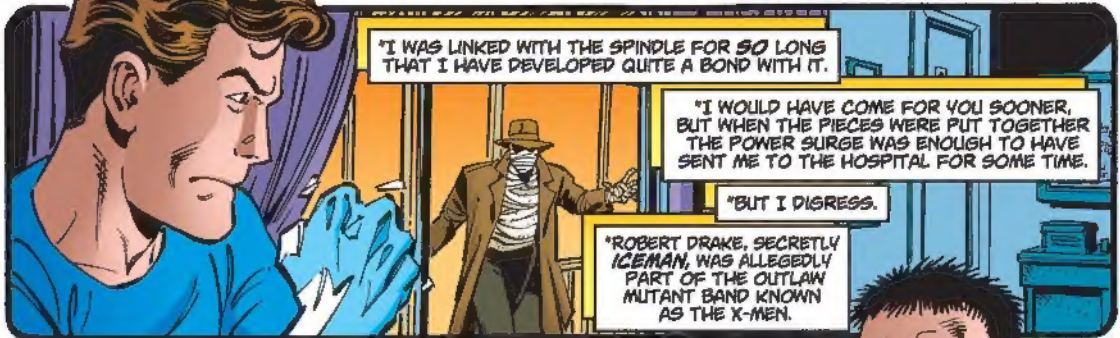
"DID HE GIVE YOU A CURE FOR YOUR LADY LOVE? OR DID YOU SIMPLY ASK HOW TO HELP YOURSELF?"

"EITHER WAY, I DO KNOW THAT YOU FOUND YOURSELF SEEKING OUT THE LONG ISLAND HOME OF ONE **ROBERT DRAKE**."



"I HAVE TO SAY SUCH A JAUNT DID HAVE ME PUZZLED."

"YES, I WAS ABLE TO TRACK YOU, MY GOOD MAN, FROM THE MOMENT YOUR POWERS MANIFESTED THEMSELVES."



"I WAS LINKED WITH THE SPINDLE FOR SO LONG THAT I HAVE DEVELOPED QUITE A BOND WITH IT."

"I WOULD HAVE COME FOR YOU SOONER, BUT WHEN THE PIECES WERE PUT TOGETHER THE POWER SURGE WAS ENOUGH TO HAVE SENT ME TO THE HOSPITAL FOR SOME TIME."

"BUT I DIGRESS."

"**ROBERT DRAKE**, SECRETLY **ICEMAN**, WAS ALLEGEDLY PART OF THE OUTLAW MUTANT BAND KNOWN AS THE **X-MEN**."



"I HAD A BIT OF A BRAWL WITH THOSE CHAPS A WHILE BACK AND..."

"...SEIZING CONTROL OF YOUR MIND... DID I NEGLECT TO MENTION THAT IS ANOTHER SIDE BENEFIT OF MY BOND TO THE SPINDLE? WELL, IT IS."

"SO IT WAS **ME** WHO HAD YOU ATTACK **ICEMAN** WITHOUT PROVOCATION."

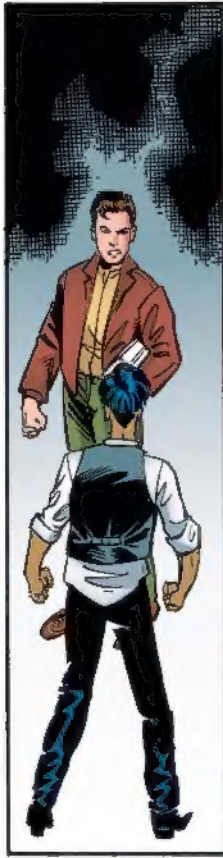
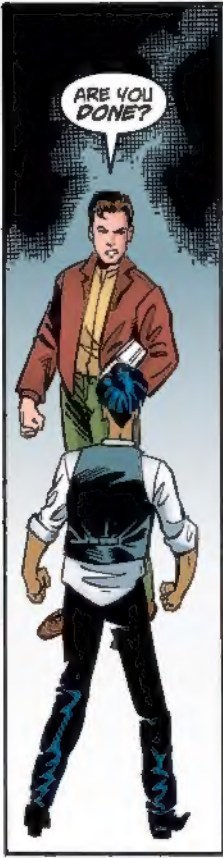
"AND NOW YOU ARE MINE."

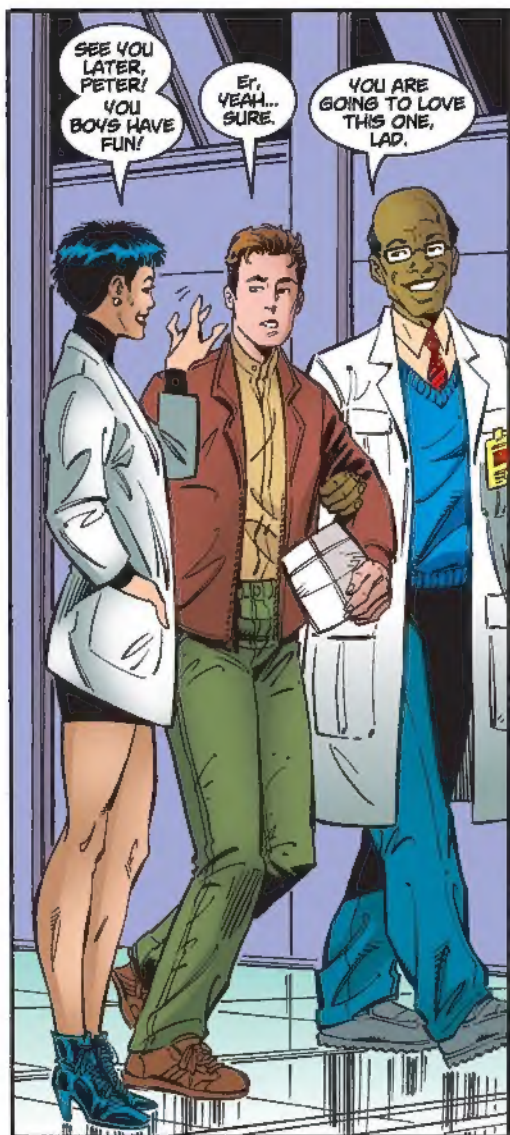
"AND YOU **WILL** HELP ME REGAIN THE SPINDLE."



"WHY?"







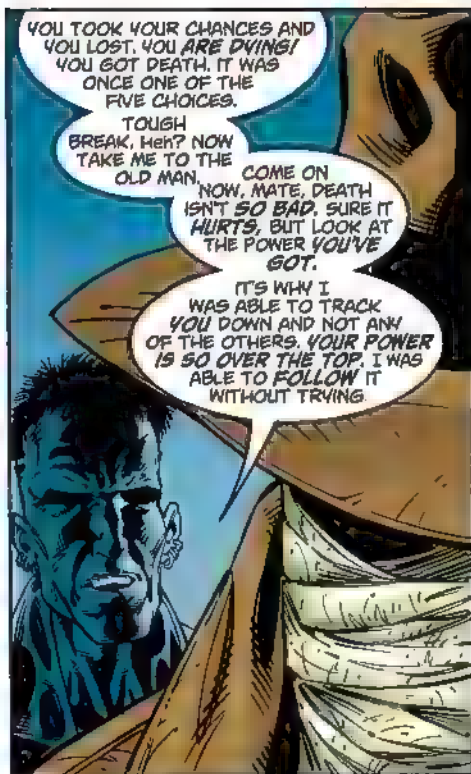




1 SHORT TIME LATER...

I'M DYING, DOLMAN EVERY SECOND THAT PASSES I FEEL ANOTHER PART OF ME DIE. IF YOU WOULD JUST LET ME GO... I COULD GET HELP... ICEMAN IT'S NOT TOO LATE FOR HIM TO --

THERE IS NO HELP FOR YOU! DON'T YOU GET IT?

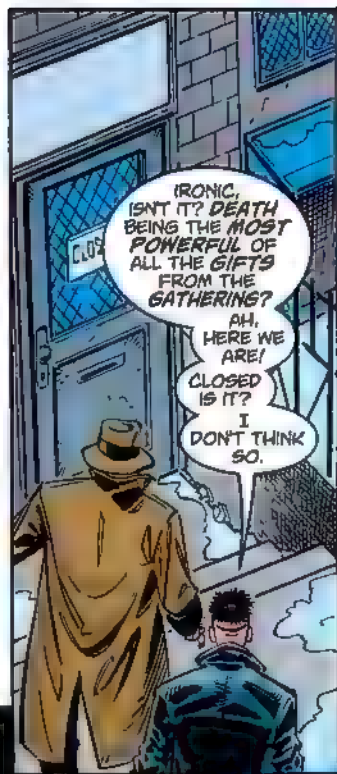


YOU TOOK YOUR CHANCES AND YOU LOST. YOU ARE DYING! YOU GOT DEATH. IT WAS ONCE ONE OF THE FIVE CHOICES.

TOUGH BREAK. HEH? NOW TAKE ME TO THE OLD MAN.

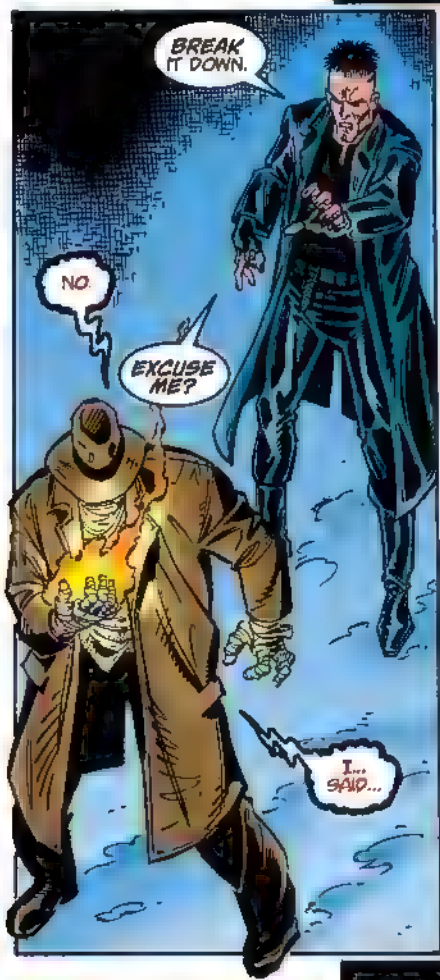
COME ON NOW, MATE. DEATH ISN'T SO BAD. SURE IT HURTS, BUT LOOK AT THE POWER YOU'VE GOT.

IT'S WHY I WAS ABLE TO TRACK YOU DOWN AND NOT ANY OF THE OTHERS. YOUR POWER IS SO OVER THE TOP. I WAS ABLE TO FOLLOW IT WITHOUT TRYING.



IRONIC, ISN'T IT? DEATH BEING THE MOST POWERFUL OF ALL THE GIFTS FROM THE GATHERING?

AH, HERE WE ARE! CLOSED IS IT? I DON'T THINK SO.



BREAK IT DOWN.

NO.

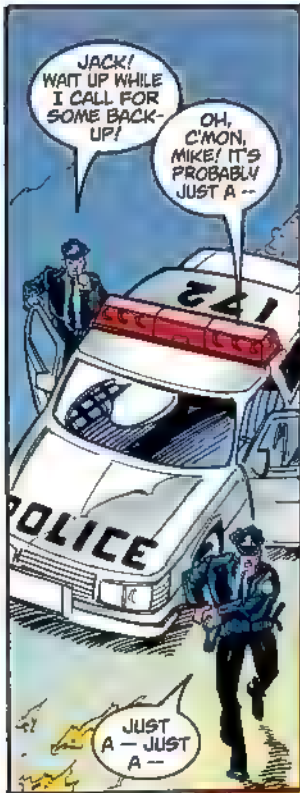
EXCUSE ME?

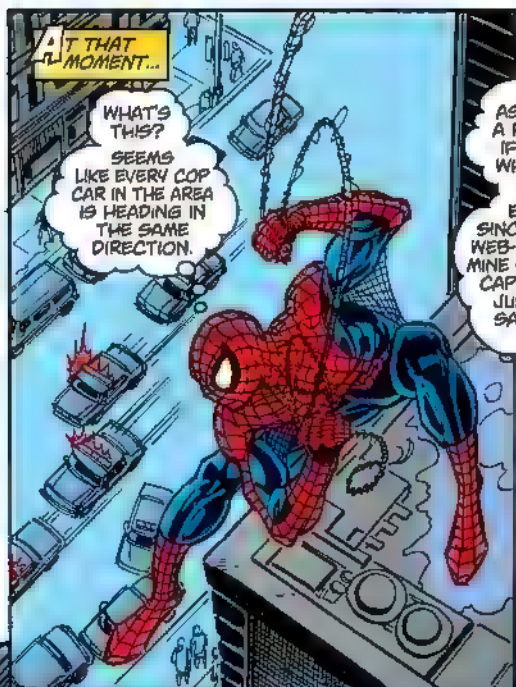
I... SAID...



WHAT THE --?

NO!





AT THAT
MOMENT...

WHAT'S
THIS?

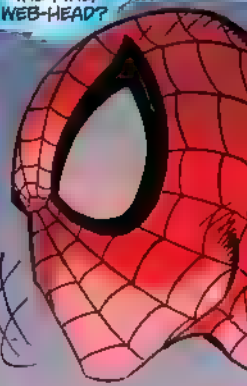
SEEMS
LIKE EVERY COP
CAR IN THE AREA
IS HEADING IN
THE SAME
DIRECTION.



MIGHT
AS WELL HITCH
A RIDE AND SEE
IF IT GETS ME
WHERE I WANT
TO GO.

ESPECIALLY
SINCE THESE OLD
WEB-SHOOTERS OF
MINE HAVE A LIMITED
CAPACITY AND I'D
JUST AS SOON
SAVE IT FOR A
FIGHT!

WHERE'S
THE FIRE,
WEB-HEAD?



ICEMAN!

YOU HAVE
NO IDEA HOW
APPROPRIATE
A QUESTION
THAT IS!

THEN I
ASSUME
WE'RE AFTER
THE SAME
GUN?

BIG GUY,
REAL STRONG,
ALL FIRE AND
GOES BY THE
NAME OF
SHADRAC?

DIDN'T
GET THE
NAME, BUT
THAT'S THE
GUY.

GLAD TO
HAVE YOU
ALONG ON THIS
ONE, SNOW SHORTS!
YOUR ICY ABILITIES
ARE JUST WHAT
THE DOC
ORDERED!

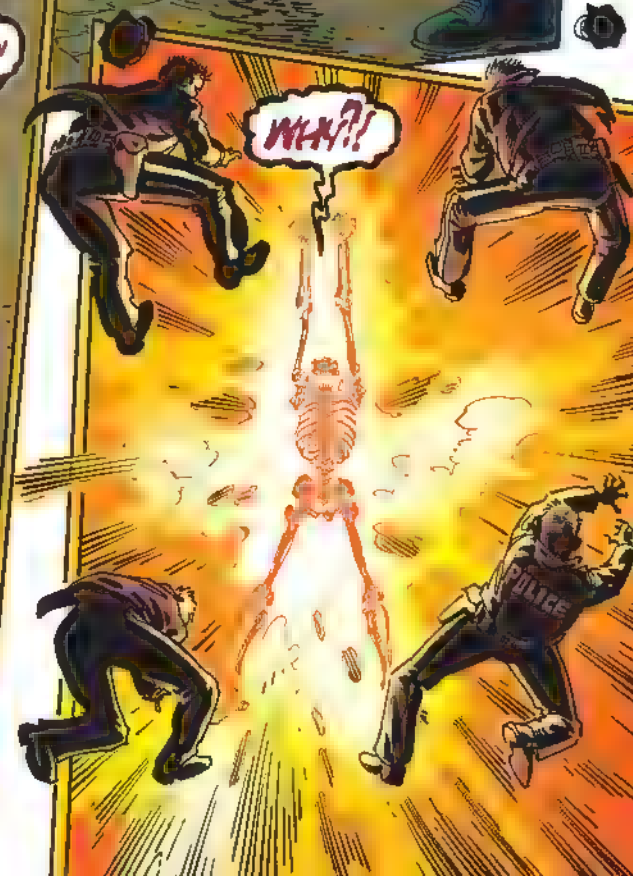
MEANWHILE...

GET...
BACK! I...
CAN'T... FIGHT.
THE PAIN...
MUCH
LONGER!

PTOOM
PTOOM
PTOOM

JACK,
GET BACK
TO THE CAR!
I'LL TAKE
CARE OF THIS
ONE!

BULLETS...
WON'T...
END... MY...
PAIN!





SEE!
I DIDN'T
WANT TO DO
THIS!

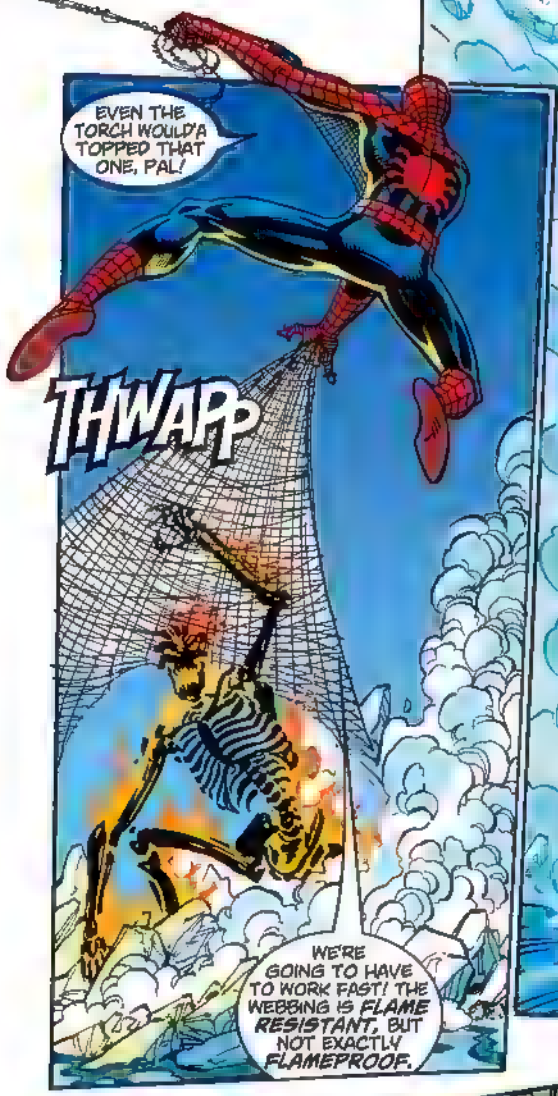
I'M HIS
PUPPET! I HAVE
NO CHOICE
BUT TO DO HIS
BIDDING. I'M
SORRY!

I NEED
YOU TO
CHILL
OUT!

HEY!
HOT
PANTS!

"CHILL
OUT"?

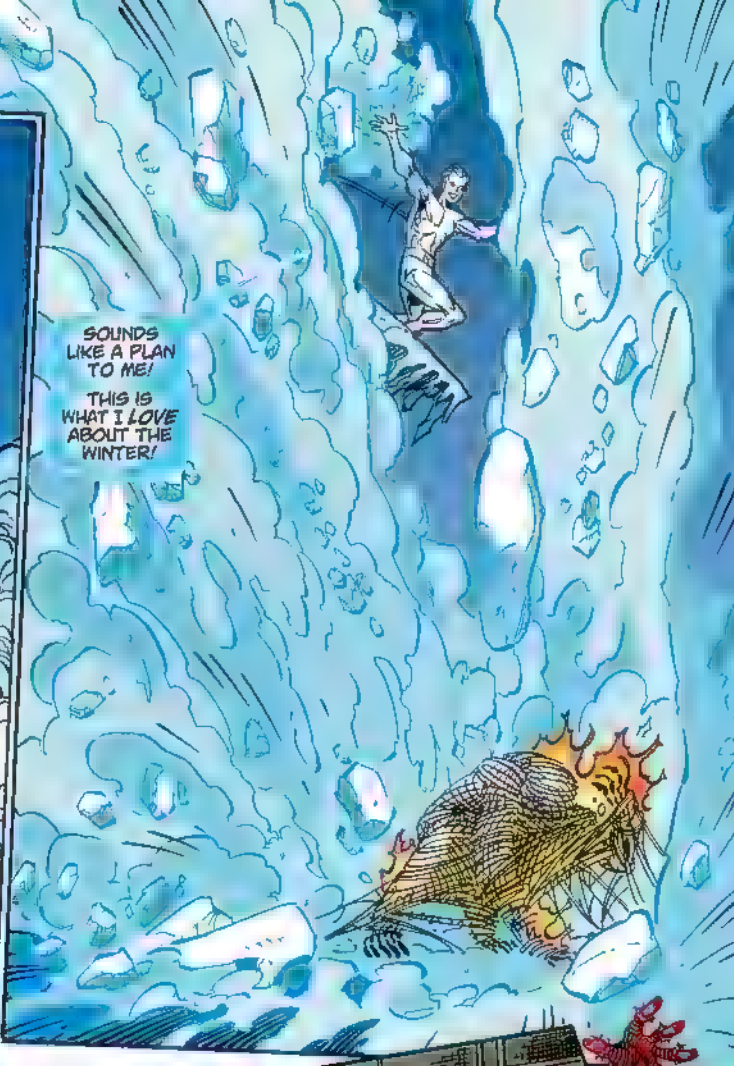
I'M SORRY.
IT WAS THE
BEST I HAD ON
A MOMENT'S
NOTICE!



EVEN THE TORCH WOULD'VE TOPPED THAT ONE, PAL!

THWAP

WE'RE GOING TO HAVE TO WORK FAST! THE WEBBING IS FLAME RESISTANT, BUT NOT EXACTLY FLAMEPROOF.



SOUNDS LIKE A PLAN TO ME!
THIS IS WHAT I LOVE ABOUT THE WINTER!

I GET TO CONTROL ALL THIS LOVELY ICE AND SNOW LAVING AROUND AND USE IT TO MY LIL' HEART'S DESIRE!

YOU THINK THAT'LL HOLD HIM?

THIS SHOULD WRAP HIM UP ALL SNUG AND TIGHT.
OH, YEAH! UNLESS HE --



KRAKOOOM



UNLESS HE TRIES REAL HARD AND TURNS THE ICE INTO A GIGANTIC WAVE OF SUPER-HEATED STEAM?

YEAH.

WHY DIDN'T I THINK OF THAT?



WHO IS THIS GUY?

I HAVE NO IDEA!

BUT HE'S OUT OF CONTROL AND SOME INNOCENT PERSON IS GOING TO GET HURT IF WE DON'T STOP HIM.



AS MUCH AS I HATE TO ADMIT IT...

...SOMEONE'S GOING TO HAVE TO GO TOE-TO-TOE WITH THIS NUT!

AND I'M ASSUMING THAT FROM THE WEB BOXING GLOVES YOU'RE MAKING — YOU'RE VOLUNTEERING.

A LITTLE ICE, MAN?

ON IT

BUT I DON'T KNOW IF THIS IS SUCH A GOOD IDEA.

WOULDN'T BE THE FIRST TIME.



BUT IT HAS
BEEN A WHILE
SINCE I'VE BEEN
ABLE TO ACT SO
FOOLISHLY!

BOY, I
HOPE MARY JANE
DOESN'T SEE
THIS ON TV, OR
SOMETHING.

SHE'D
KNOW IT
WAS ME IF
SHE DID.

I CAN'T
BELIEVE I'M
GOING TO LIE
TO HER.

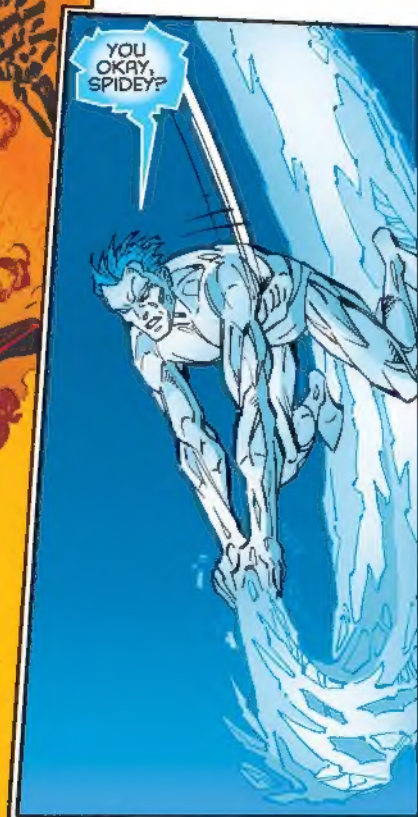
BUT IS IT
REALLY A LIE IF
SHE DOESN'T
ASK?

CAN'T
THINK OF
THAT NOW.

GOT TO
STAY FOCUSED
ON SHADRAC
AND --

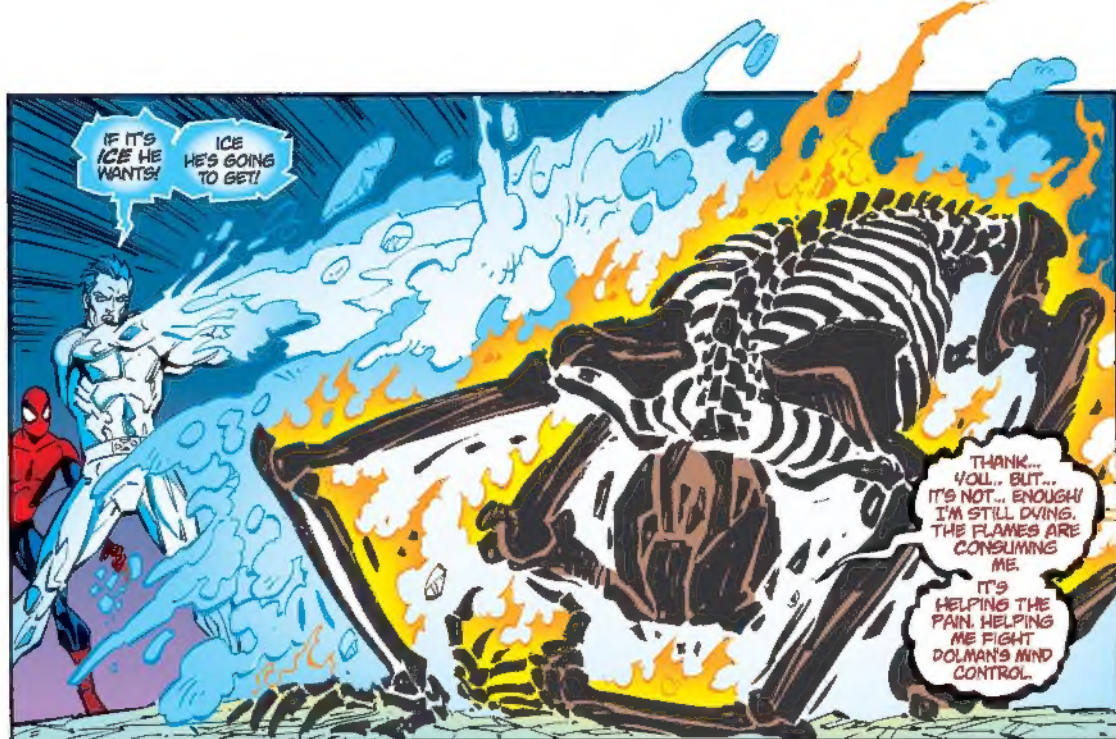


OW!



YOU
OKAY,
SPIDEY?







YOU'VE GOT TO FREEZE MY BLOOD... WHAT BLOOD I STILL HAVE... FREEZE IT... LOWER ITS TEMPERATURE AS MUCH AS YOU CAN TO ABSOLUTE ZERO IF YOU HAVE IT IN YOU.

OR I WILL DIE.

IT MIGHT KILL YOU ANYWAY.

IT'S A RISK I'M WILLING TO TAKE.

DOLMAN'S GOT TO BE STOPPED AND YOU TWO AREN'T ENOUGH TO DO IT.

YOU ASKED FOR IT!

TO BE CONTINUED IN THE PAGES OF
**PETER PARKER:
SPIDER-MAN#3**
DON'T MISS IT!